

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 CAB-02
COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FAA-00 /081 W
-----251251 041551 /43

R 251025Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9886
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
DOD WASHDC
USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GERMANY
AMCONSUL GOTEBORG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 848

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, SW
SUBJECT: GOS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RELATED TO AIR INCIDENT
OVER BALTIC

REF: STOCKHOLM 710 (NOTAL) (DTG 151540Z)

1. DURING MEETING ON FEBRUARY 24 BETWEEN POL. COUNS. AND
MFA NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL L.A. NILSSON, LATTER
RECALLED THAT COMMITTEE CHARGED WITH INVESTIGATING THE
NEAR-MISS BETWEEN A USAF RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT AND A
SOVIET AEROFLOT PLANE OVER THE BALTIC ON JANUARY 5 MUST
SOON SUBMIT A REPORT ON ITS FINDINGS. HE RECALLED FURTHER
THAT FOREIGN MINISTER SODER ON JANUARY 19 HAD INFORMED
THE RIKSDAG THAT THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT WOULD BE RELEASED
WHEN COMPLETED. MFA IS NOW IN RECEIPT OF A REQUEST FROM THE
CIVIL AVIATION BOARD'S INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE TO OBTAIN
FROM US SOURCES RESPONSES TO FIVE TECHNICAL QUESTIONS
RELEVANT TO ITS INVESTIGATION. IN TURNING OVER THESE
QUESTIONS TO THE POL. COUNS., NILSSON EXPRESSED THE HOPE
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THAT RESPONSES TO THEM MIGHT BE PROVIDED WITHIN THE NEXT
WEEK TO 10 DAYS.

2. INFORMATION REQUESTED IS AS FOLLOWS:
(A) ALTIUTDE AND WEATHER CONDITIONS AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT?
(B) AT WHAT TIME AND IN WHAT POSITION WAS THE SOVIET PLANE
FIRST OBSERVED?

(C) THE CLOSEST ESTIMATED DISTANCE BETWEEN THE TWO PLANES? THE ESTIMATED ALTITUDE OF THE PLANES? (DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING ALTITUDE, POSITION, ETC. WOULD BE APPRECIATED.)

(D) WHAT ACTION WAS TAKEN TO AVOID A COLLISION?

(E) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BY THE CREW OR THE TRAFFIC CONTROL PERSONNEL RELEVANT TO TRAFFIC SECURITY?

3. COMMENT: AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, MFA OFFICIALS HANDLING THIS CASE HAVE BEEN UNUSUALLY SYMPATHETIC TO THE US POSITION, NOT ONLY ON THE QUESTION OF RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER THE BALTIC IN GENERAL, BUT IN ATTEMPTING TO DEFLECT PUBLIC ATTENTION AWAY FROM THE SPECIFICS OF THE JANUARY 5 INCIDENT. GIVEN THEIR COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING, AND BECAUSE A FINAL REPORT ON THE INCIDENT WILL BE SUBMITTED BY THE CIVIL AVIATION BOARD TO THE GOVERNMENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED TO THE RIKSDAG, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES IT NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE THAT AS COMPLETE A RESPONSE AS POSSIBLE BE MADE TO THE QUESTIONS ABOVE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, ALLEGATIONS, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STOCKH00848
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770065-1125
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977027/aaaaaged.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bcee0fcb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STOCKHOLM 710
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3399725
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RELATED TO AIR INCIDENT OVER BALTIC
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, SW, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bcee0fcb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009